



Email: thamesriverrelay@gmail.com
Website: www.thamesriverrelay.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thamesriverrelay/>
Twitter: @thamesriverrelay

01 August 2016

Thames River Relay Source 2 Sea 2016

Dear Leg Organisers/Independent Participants

Thank you for agreeing to participate in the first SUP Thames River Relay Source 2 Sea event for the Totally Thames Festival 2016. We are really excited about the relay this year and hope to get communities engaged with the river recreationally as well as highlight the importance of maintaining it's health, especially in relation to the epidemic of plastic pollution. We are proud to have many SUP and watersports clubs, adventure groups and paddle enthusiasts join us on the river this year.

We would like to ensure that everyone is safe on the river and most importantly has fun! Please take the time to look through and where necessary complete the leg organiser/independent participant agreement, river registration process and health and safety advice below.

LEG ORGANISER AND INDEPENDENT PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT

Thames River Relay Source 2 Sea 2016 Agreement (see below) – this must be signed, dated and sent back to the Thames River Relay Team by 21 August 2016. Please note that you will not be able to commence your leg of the relay without the agreement form being completed and received. Leg organisers can sign on behalf of all participants within the group you are overseeing (eg SUPclubs, watersports clubs and adventure groups) and individual participants not associated with an organised group will be required to sign the agreement independently.

You can return your agreement by:

- Emailing a scanned copy to: thamesriverrelay@gmail.com
- Post a signed copy to: 7 Bedford Close, London, W4 2UE
- Alternately if you are unable to do the above you can send through a clear photograph of the signed agreement to the email above.

REGISTRATION

All individual paddle boards and non-motorised vessels must be registered with the Environment Agency for use on the non-tidal River Thames. Registrations can be purchased in advance through the link below or from lock keepers on the day of paddling. Alternately if you have a larger group confirmed you may wish to purchase a Visiting Competitors License. If you are a club or organisation already operating on the Thames and you have registered your boards/vessels with the Environment Agency you will not need to re-register.

Registrations:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/river-thames-unpowered-boat-application-form>

Visiting Competitors Licenses

These are for BLOCK registrations only and must be paid for in advance via the Boat Registration Team – phone number 03708 306 306 . Allow 10 days for delivery. The licenses must be displayed on all boards during the event.

The cost per number of participants is as follows:

0-10	£71.10
11-25	£89.40
26-50	£108.20



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28 July 2016

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HEALTH AND SAFETY

We advise that all leg organisers and participants meet the health and safety and best practice guidelines of river use as set out by the Environmental Agency and British Canoeing. Also to check weather and river conditions prior to departure and to consult with the event organisers if weather conditions are adverse.

- For safety guidelines whilst paddling on the river:

<https://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk/about-canoeing/safety-guidance/>

- For up-to-date river conditions and stream warning advice when the river is flowing fast:

<http://riverconditions.environment-agency.gov.uk/>

- For river conditions, closures and restrictions:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/river-thames-conditions-closures-restrictions-and-lock-closures>

- For lock facilities

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/river-thames-bridges-locks-and-facilities-for-boaters>

We advise that all leg organisers complete a risk assessment of their leg of the river. A proforma risk assessment has been attached should you not have one available. A completed sample risk assessment has also been included for demonstrative purposes only (please note that this was completed for an event on the tidal section of the river, therefore not all the information/risks/measures will be relevant to the non-tidal river). All paddle boards or non-motorised water crafts (eg kayaks/canoes) must be in good working order and all participants should wear a personal floatation device or leash on the non-tidal Thames.

It is the recommendation of the Environment Agency that all paddle boarders portage at locks.

RIVER HEALTH AND PLASTIC POLLUTION

This year we are focusing on plastic pollution and the health of the river. We would love for all participants to make a pledge to the #oneless campaign, which aims to rid London of single-use plastic water bottles by 2021. Please find attached further information on how you can get involved!

LAUREUS AND WAVES FOR CHANGE EVENT

If one leg of the relay is not enough, please join us on the river for the Laureus and Waves for Change mass paddle or marathon on the 17th September, which will form one leg of the relay. <https://www.laureus.com/sup/>

We will be sending further updates about the relay over the next month. In the meantime please check us out on:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thamesriverrelay/>

Twitter: @thamesrelay

Website: www.thamesriverrelay.com (pending)

We look forward to seeing you all out on the river. If you have any questions please contact us on thamesriverrelay@gmail.com

Regards

Mel Joe
Event Co-ordinator
Thames River Relay



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Thames River Relay Source to Sea River 2016

Agreement

I, the Leg Organiser/Independent Participant agree that I am over the age of eighteen and fit and that I have risk assessed the leg of the relay that I am undertaking/organising, and have paddled this or a similar distance already this year in like conditions. Any co-participants that I invite to join will also be fit enough to undertake the nominated relay leg. Any participant under the age of 18 years old will be required to be supervised by a parent or guardian who will undertake the full responsibility for their safety.

I agree that if I consider conditions to be at all risky or unsafe I will not be under any duress to begin or complete this stage of the relay and the organisers of the Thames River Relay will have sole responsibility for the onward transport of the baton (the bottle of Thames water). The organisers of the Thames River Relay hold the overall right to cancel any leg of the relay if the river or weather conditions are deemed to be unsafe to proceed.

I confirm that I take full responsibility for my own decision to participate in this relay and understand that Thames River Relay Source 2 Sea does not assume any legal liability for me with regard to any injury, loss or damage suffered by me or those under my care. I confirm that I take full responsibility for any participants, crew, passengers or others who take part in this stage of the relay.

I confirm that I, and any other participants under my care, will not be under the influence of drink or drugs at the time of their participation in the relay.

I agree that in the event I cannot complete my agreed leg of the relay I will use my best efforts and contacts to find a replacement(s) and will inform Paul Hyman, Active360 (phone number: 07885860806) of the change as soon as possible.

I am aware that paddling/swimming in untreated water can lead to stomach upsets and diseases such as Salmonella and Weil's disease and understand that I participate entirely at my own risk.

By signing I confirm that I have read and fully understand this disclaimer.

Signed:

Organisation:

Date:

Please fill in the name and contact number of someone we can contact in case of any problems.

Name:

Contact No: